

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 05311 010056Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

EB-07 COME-00 SS-15 NSC-05 DODE-00 OMB-01 IO-10 /079 W

----- 104548

R 010040Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7141

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 5311

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, NATO, FR

SUBJECT: WEU, EUROGROUP AND EUROPEAN ARMAMENTS COOPERATION

REF: PARIS 3681 OF FEBRUARY 1974

1. SUMMARY: STEAM SEEMS TO HAVE GONE OUT OF EARLIER EFFORTS (REFTEL) TO PUMP NEW LIFE INTO WEU'S STANDING ARAMENTS COMMITTEE AS FOCAL POINT FOR EUROPEAN COOPERATION ON ARAMENTS PRODUCTION. FRENCH PUBLIC POLICY ON GOF ROLE IN EUROGROUP REMAINS NEGATIVE, ALTHOUGH GISCARD MAY BE MORE FLEXIBLE ON THIS ISSUE THAN HIS PREDECESSORS. END SUMMARY.

2. THE WESTERN EUROPEAN UNIONS STANDING ARAMENTS COMMITTEE (SAC) MET WITH THE WEU ASSEMBLYS DEFENSE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 05311 010056Z

COMMITTEE IN PARIS ON FEBRUARY 18 FOR AN EXCHANGE OF

VIEWS ON ARMAMENTS PROBLEMS. LOCAL WEU SOURCE TOLD US THAT MEETING BROKE NO NEW GROUND AND WAS CHARACTERIZED BY LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR ANY ENHANCED WEU ROLE IN FIELD OF ARMAMENTS COOPERATION. EARLIER INITIATIVES TO PUMP NEW LIFE INTO SAC AS FOCAL POINT FOR EUROPEAN COOPERATION ON ARMAMENTS PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT (REPORTED REFTTEL) SEEM TO BE STALLED. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, FRENCH PARTICIPANTS IN FEBRUARY 18 MEETING MADE NO EFFORT TO PUSH FRENCH PROPOSALS (GOING BACK TO PERIOD OF DEBRE MOD AND JOBERT FONOFF) TO REINVIGORATE SAC. MOREOVER, PARTICIPANTS FROM OTHER SIX WEU COUNTIRES REPORTEDLY TOOK RESOLUTE STAND AGAINST ANY FURTHER EXAMINATION AT THIS TIME OF LARGER ROLE FOR SAC AS ENVISAGED BY BELGIAN, ITALIAN AND FRENCH PROPOSALS, DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL.

3. COINCIDENTALLY, FEBRUARY 24 EDITION OF FRENCH WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE LE POINT REPORTS FROM BONN THAT GISCARD HAS ASSURED SCHMIDT FRANCE WILL ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIP WITH EUROGROUP AS SOON AS INERNAL FRENCHPOLITICAL SITUATION PERMITS. ACCORDING TO SAME ARTICLE, FRENCH PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE DENIED THAT SUCH PROMISE HAD BEEN MADE TO SCHMIDT.

4. COMMENT: AS WE REPORTED IN REFTTEL, FRENCH GVERNMENT OFFICIALDOM HAS LONG BEEN SPLIT IN ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE EUROGROUP. IN PAST, GAULLIST POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS SUCCEDED IN PREVENTING FRANCE FROM MOVING CLOSER TO THE EUROGROUP. SINCE GISCARD HAS COME TO POWER, WE HAVE SEENNO CONCRETE EVIDENCE THAT HE INTENDS TO CHANGE THIS GAULLIST ATTITUDE. HOWEVER, GIVEN HIS PRAGMATIC ANDMORE FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO POLITICAL ISSUES, HE MAYINTEND TO WORK OUT IN FUTURE A SPECIAL FRENCH-EUROGROUP RELATIONSHIP ONCE HE BELIEVES HE CAN DEFEND SUCH A MOVE AGAINST DOMESTIC CRITICS.

RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROCUREMENT, ARMS PRODUCTION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS05311
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750072-0471
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750391/aaaadenp.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PARIS 3681, 75 OF FEBRUARY 1974
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEU, EUROGROUP AND EUROPEAN ARMAMENTS COOPERATION
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, FR, NATO, WEU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006